

“Inside all of us is a Wild Thing,” is a quote from *Where The Wild Things Are*. Honestly, no matter how sedate or uptight a person can be, there’s always an insane imagination lurking deep down in him, waiting to be discovered. When we dream, we create things never before seen, and this gives us courage to face reality. The human mind is limitless, and we often conjure up imaginary friends, creatures, and places. That’s why I believe in the power of imagination.

I am a dreamer. There are so many things I want to do with my life and so many places I would rather be. Yet most of these things are, at present, not geographically or financially possible within my capabilities. Hence imagination is my only means to escaping. Whenever I am stressed, tired or simply bored, all I have to do is dream of myself in desirable places - yodeling atop snowy peaks of the Alps, riding suburban trains through Australia or dancing with medieval kings in English castles - and it is catharsis. These are the things that keep me going, that make reality a little more tolerable, and give me the strength to work towards those dreams and materialize them.

To artists and scientists alike, imagination is key and Thomas Edison, for one, invented the light bulb only through a curious mind and thinking beyond boundaries. Although I am not a scientist, I enjoy taking photographs in my spare time and when doing this, I have to imagine and dream a little, in order to capture the moments in new and original ways. Hence I think imagination goes a long way, and the results of a wild imagination can stay with us for a long time, impacting us in so many different ways, like changing the way we live. In primary school my friends and I participated in a programme where we had to invent various things like tools and robots. In retrospect, we were able to make things happen only because we had a kid’s imagination. We never criticised, never put others’ ideas down and never said no to anything that seemed out of the question. Because things are hardly ever what they seem, and something that seems completely stupid might prove useful to help us break new ground in our endeavours. I occasionally have good ideas about something when I think outside of the box, use my imagination and try to see it in different light. Through this, I can safely say that there is nothing to lose when you dream a little more.

I believe in imagination, that all you have to do is find the kid in you and let it all out, let it all go. I do hope that one day I will truly abandon all my inhibitions and fear of being judged, and be able to really let my imagination run wild to free me from restraints - from conformity. Despite the fronts and facades I put on for different occasions, I try to be a little less logical, a little less somber sometimes, and remember the Wild Thing inside me.